



# Parent Update

A Newsletter for Families of Those Residing at the  
Southwestern Virginia Training Center

## Southwestern Virginia Training Center shows its Gratitude with Volunteer Appreciation Banquet

On April 23, 2009 Southwestern Virginia Training Center honored their hundreds of volunteers with the annual Volunteer Appreciation Banquet. Over 150 volunteers came to the Appreciation Banquet where they were each presented a certificate and an angel pin. They were served a special treat this year of chocolate fondue and all of the dip-pers to go with it. This year's theme was "Our Volunteers Are Our Every Day Angels." The Individuals from 7A, 5C, and 5D were presented with beautiful wooden plaques made by the ladies of 6D for their volunteering efforts in the community this past year. Three people from the community received plaques for their extraordinary volunteer efforts here at SWVTC. Wayne Marshall and Three Stockings were awarded Group Volunteer of Year, Evelyn Gunter from Mt. Airy was awarded Volunteer of the Year, and the late Michael Lupien from Richmond was awarded Honorary Volunteer of the Year. All of these folks demonstrated throughout the year special acts of kindness and generosity toward the Individuals who live here.

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### Special points of interest:

- \* **Volunteers of the Year are Announced!!**
- \* **Contestants win a bunch of prizes playing The Price Is Right**
- \* **SWVTC attends Special Olympics and wins big!!**
- \* **Everyone loves Scrapbooking!**



Left: Wayne Marshall & Three Stockings

Above: Evelyn Gunter  
Volunteer of the Year



Edward Lupien is presented his father's  
Volunteer of the Year Award

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# Volunteer Appreciation Banquet

The guys of 7A worked very hard this past summer to raise over \$1000 for Relay for Life. To raise this money they had several fundraisers and auctions and then participated in the walk that took place at Carroll County High School. This money will be put to good use by The American Cancer Society in their efforts to find a cure for cancer. Well done GUYS!!



Nobel was very excited to receive this plaque on behalf of all of the guys that live at Cottage 7A.



Collene Webb, 5D Case Manager, accepted the plaque due to a prescheduled trip on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

A plaque of recognition was presented to Randy, Brett, Curtis, Kenny, Timmy, Hampton, and staff for their heading up and organizing the SWVTC care package project for the United States military overseas. They helped gather, package, and prepare for shipping items donated by staff and local businesses. Their volunteering efforts brought smiles and comfort to many soldiers away from home over the Christmas season. We applaud them for doing their part to support our troops overseas.



Mark and Steve accepted the plaque on behalf of the guys on 5C.

The guys of 5C (Joe, Terry, Tim O., Tim M., Robbie, Andy, and Mark) received a plaque of recognition for their work this past fall on a very special beautification project at Joy Ranch Children's Home. They cleaned the grounds, picked up trash, put up fall decorations, and helped with the annual fall and Christmas banquets. Their volunteering efforts at Joy Ranch have really helped to make the campus a beautiful place for the children to live!!



# Come ON Down!!

## You're the Next Contestant on the Price is Right!!!

On March 26th SWVTC held its second Price Is Right Game Day. The names of all the Individuals at SWVTC were put in a hat and whoever was chosen heard that famous phrase, "Come On Down. You are the next contestant on the Price Is Right." There were six different games replicated from the show such as Mountain Climber, HI or LO, Punch Out, and others. Kim J (5B) and Eddie B (3B) made it to the Showcase Showdown and competed for a cottage pizza party, \$50 dinner out, and MP3 player. Kim won the cottage pizza party and Tony took home the gift certificate and MP3 player. Everyone was given a special treat after the show just for coming. They all had a great time and can't wait until we play it again!!



Eddie B spinning the wheel trying to make it into the Showcase Show Down.



These are our lovely ladies and Corey Williams, music therapist, served as our host.



Eddie B. and Kim J. competing in the Showcase Showdown!



Sam is getting ready for the 50 meter dash. WAY TO GO SAM!!



Hope and Jeanie placed in the 100-meter walk .

## Special Olympics 2009

On April 26th we had 19 people represent SWVTC at this years Special Olympics in Radford. Several people won first and second place ribbons in events such as the softball throw, the wheelchair race, 100 meter walk/run, 50 meter run, and etc. Everyone had a great time and can't wait to compete again next year!! A lot of hard work and training went into preparing for these games and we salute everyone for their effort!



Travis is gearing up to participate in the wheelchair race.



Shannon, Melody N. and Guida are enjoying a healthy snack after all that hard work!!



# Special Olympics Awards and Recognition Night

The Individuals who participated in Special Olympics at Radford were honored with a special Awards and Recognition Night. Everyone was called to the stage and presented with their official Special Olympics t-shirt. They were given a special treat following the ceremony complete with a customized cake, ice cream, chips, jello, applesauce, and strawberry smoothies. It was definitely a Special Night filled with laughter and lots of smiles!!!!



Nobel (above) and Gary A.(left) were proud to show off their new well deserved T-shirts.



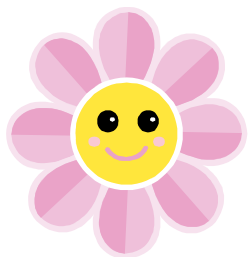
Left:

Jessica was very excited to receive her new shirt. She won a blue ribbon for her participation in the wheel-chair race.

Right:

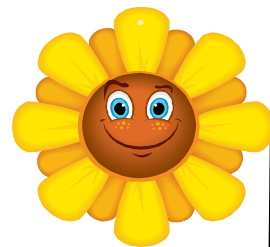
This was Carl's first year and he won two blue ribbons. He won these at the softball throw and the 100 meter run. Way to GO CARL!!





# Scrapbooking Fun

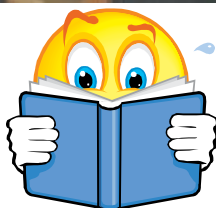
by Collene Web, 5C/5D Case Manger



The Individuals of cottages 5C and 5D have been making personalized scrapbooks as a project. The scrapbooks give them an opportunity to share pictures of community activities and campus events in which they have participated. The scrapbook pictures capture the interests of the residents, and allows them to have memories of some of their favorite aspects of their lives. Several residents have shared their scrapbooks with team members at their Annual Reviews. It is a very nice way to help residents take part at their annual meetings. The residents seem to love sharing their photos and favorite fieldtrips! Scrapbooking is an on-going project completed by the residents with the assistance of the staff who work with them each day. The staff really enjoy helping them to take pictures on field trips and then later making these special picture collages. Scrapbooking has proven to be a very meaningful and educational project and we hope to continue working on these scrapbooks as a weekly project. I am sure they would love to share their special books with family members when they come to visit.



The guys of 5D are having a great time working on their scrapbooks learning about all of the different ways they can organize their pictures and special memories.



Tim O. is working hard to get his scrap book exactly as he wants it!!

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**LIFE at SWVTC**

**VISION:** Living  
Independently and  
Functionally Everyday

**MISSION:** Support Work  
Value Teach Communicate

**HELP FOR PARENTS AND ASSOCIATES ADVOCATE  
COUNCIL (PAAC)**

**OUR GROUP NEEDS YOUR HELP! IS ANYONE INTERESTED IN SERVING AS PRESIDENT OF THE SWVTC PAAC? THE DUTIES INCLUDE CHAIRING PAAC MEETINGS AND OCCASIONALLY REPRESENTING PAAC AT MEETINGS OR WRITING LETTERS ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERSHIP. THE PERSON WHO SERVES IN THIS POSITION WILL HAVE ASSISTANCE FROM THE FACILITY WHENEVER NEEDED. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR SOCIAL WORKER IF YOU ARE INTERESTED.**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!!**

**A Note From Abby**



Summer is upon us and the flowers are blooming everywhere on campus. Nineteen people participated in Special Olympics this year and several placed with blue and red ribbons. WAY to GO team! On May 12th spectators will get to cheer on their favorite staff basketball players at the first staff basketball tournament. In June we will be gearing up for a great time at the annual kick-off of summer, The Summer Picnic and Dance. Individuals will have lots of opportunity for fun at this patriotic themed party. There will be All-American apple pie and vanilla ice cream. We will also be having a special presentation by God's Light Choir Tour. They are touring the US and have asked to perform here. It should be a wonderful performance. So as you can see May and June will be pretty busy. We are definitely kicking off summer with some very fun events. Don't forget if anyone is interested in learning more about being PAAC president we are still looking for volunteers. Feel free to call me anytime to discuss this or any other ideas you might have. I am looking forward to hearing from you!!